(b) the present status of the project and the cost incurred till date; and

(c) the unit cost of electricity generated by the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) In March, 1994, approval was accroded to the Tehri Hydro Power Corporation for implementing the Tehri Dam & HEP Stage-I (1000 MW) at an estimated cost of Rs. 3391.40 Crs. (March 1993 Price Level) including IDC of Rs. 427.74 crores. The cost estimates included the committed works of Koteshwar HEP and essential works of Tehri PSP. Two units were to be commissioned during 1997-98 and balance two units during 1998-99.

(b) Considerable progress has been made on Tehri Stage-I works. The Main Dam has been raised to an elevation of EL 800 m. and balance height to be raised is ony 40m. against the total height of 260.5m. The work on various fronts of Chute Spillway, Right Bank Shaft Spillway, Left Bank Shaft Spillway is also progressing. The civil Works of underground Power House are nearing completion. The erection work of Electro-mechanical Equipment of the Units is in progress. The first unit is scheduled to be completed by March, 2003 and the balance units by August, 2003. The expenditure incurred on Tehri Stage-I (1000 MW) till May, 2002 is Rs. 4286.89 Crores.

(c) The projected cost of generation at the Revised Cost at Price Level of August, 1999 was estimated at 141.17 paise/unit. The unit cost of generation will be determined on completion of the project by Central Electricity Regulatory Commission.

Proposal submitted by Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh for Development roads under PMGSY

143. DR. AKHILESH DAS : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Uttar pradesh and Andhra Pradesh have submitted a comprehensive project proposal for conversion of the earth and gravel roads in the State connecting villages and habitations with over 1000 population into wider block topped roads and to provide new link roads from such habitations to the existing road network by 2003 under the pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY).

(b) if so, the details and cost thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to have approval and consultation of the local MPs in the said Works ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) there is no comprehensive proposal from these two States. State Governments send proposals from time to time under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). So far proposals to the tune of Rs. 659.97 crore and Rs. 963.05 crore pertaining to the State of Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh respectively have been cleared in the years 2000-01 and 2001-02.

(c) The States have been advised to give full consideration to the proposals made by the Hon'ble Members of Parliament while finalising the proposals under the PMGSY.

Emulating West Bengal's successful land reforms scheme

144. SHRI JIBON ROY : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the news item "Land reforms in Bengal and Asian Success Story" published in the 'Times of India' dated 27th May, 2002; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to follow similar policy all over the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Thrust of the news item is to the security of rights of the poor on land by providing them ownership rights. The Government of India's policy since Independence have also been in the same direction i.e., "land to the tiller". However, land and its management is under the legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the State Governments as provided in Entry 18 List II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The Central Government performs an advisory and coordinating function in this regard.

Since Independence, laws have been enacted by various States with the objective of abolishing big landlords, distribution of land through imposition